

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 RSC-01 OES-03 FEAE-00 PM-03 SP-02

SS-15 H-01 /072 W

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R 071634Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7817

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

ERDA GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 02153

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH, GW

SUBJECT: PNE'S -- FRG REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF
US POLICY

REF: A. LONDON 16270, B.STATE 237038, C.STATE 178800

1. SUMMARY: FRG DISARMAMENT COMMISSIONER ROTH HAS
REQUESTED THAT EMBASSY DISCUSS US POLICY RE
PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES (PNE'S) ON FEBRUARY 14.
ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 14.
END SUMMARY.

2. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN PAST FEW MONTHS, ROTH HAS
EXPRESSED INTEREST IN DISCUSSING US PNE POLICY. DURING
NOVEMBER 18 VISIT BY ACDA DIRECTOR IKLE, FOR EXAMPLE,
HE ASKED EMBASSY'S S&T COUNSELOR TO REVIEW US POSITION
ON PROPOSED QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT. WE ARE AWARE
THAT PNE'S REPRESENT COMPLEX TOPIC WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER
ACTIVE CONSIDERATION IN SEVERAL FORA (IAEA, UN, AND
CCD) AND THAT QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT POSES CERTAIN
PROBLEMS FOR US. CONSEQUENTLY, WE HAVE UNTIL NOW
SUCCESSFULLY DEFERRED THIS DISCUSSION.

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3. ROTH HAS ASKED EMBOFFS TO CALL FEB.14 TO DISCUSS PNE'S WITH HIM AND FONOFF VERIFICATION OFFICE DIRECTOR HAUBER. ROTH PROFESSES TO BE CONFUSED ABOUT US POLICY. REFERRING TO HEARINGS BEFORE A SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ARMS CONTROL, ROTH SAID HE IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER THE US IS FOR OR AGAINST FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF PNE'S. ROTH REPORTED THAT GERMAN SCIENTISTS WOULD OPPOSE ANY ACTION WHICH WOULD INTERFERE WITH TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT TO PERFECT PNE'S. HE ALSO REFERRED TO THE USE OF PNE'S FOR THE QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT, WHICH MAY AGAIN BECOME A LIVE ISSUE FOR THE FRG.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WE RECOMMEND THAT US MAKE AN EFFORT TO RESPOND TO ROTH'S EXPRESSION OF INTEREST. WE WOULD APPRECIATE A BRIEF STATUS REPORT TO UPDATE THE REF. B. REVIEW OF THE US POSITION ON THE PNE ISSUE IN THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES, A BRIEF REPORT ABOUT ANY CONCLUSIONS THE USAEC/ERDA MAY HAVE DRAWN ABOUT PNE'S FOR THE QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT DURING THEIR LOW-KEY CONTACTS WITH THE FRG FEASIBILITY STUDY, AND A BRIEF STATEMENT ON PRESENT STATUS OF PNE TECHNOLOGY AND THE US INTEREST IN ITS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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